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A SKETCH OF THE LIFE

OF

THOMAS STEWARDSON, M.D.

[Extracted from the Transactions of the College of Physicians of  
Philadelphia, 3d Series, Vol. VII.]

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A

# SKETCH OF THE LIFE

OF

## THOMAS STEWARDSON, M.D.,

AN ASSOCIATE OF THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF PHILADELPHIA.

Read before the College November 7, 1883,

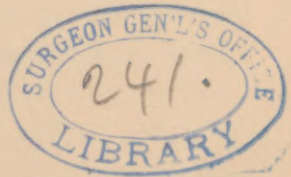
BY

W. S. W. RUSCHENBERGER, M.D.

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PHILADELPHIA:

1883.

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## SKETCH.

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DR. STEWARDSON was a son of Thomas Stewardson, who was born and lived more than a score of years in Westmoreland, England, where his ancestors had been settled during many generations on the family estate. Towards the close of the last century, Thomas Stewardson visited Philadelphia on business, intending to return to London after its transaction. The realization of this intention seems to have been delayed at first by his becoming zealously interested in the condition of the aborigines of the country, and then by very important business engagements. It appears that he often stated to his friends that he intended to return to England to live.

Nevertheless, on the 14th of April, 1796, he was married in the High Street Meeting-House of Philadelphia, to Anna, a daughter of John Head, whose father, of Bury St. Edmonds, England, settled in Philadelphia in 1717.

His subsequent career evinced a benevolent and philanthropic disposition. He served as an inspector of the public

prisons, and from 1808 till 1841, more than thirty-three years, he was one of the Managers of the Pennsylvania Hospital. His undoubted integrity, sagacity in business, scrupulous exactness in small things, and firmness of character enhanced the influence of his judgment and counsels in the Board and secured him respect in the community. A weak point with him was fastidiousness in securing a particular shade of color for his garb or raiment, and especially in matching his small-clothes and silk stockings, due possibly to an unusually acute sensitivity for color, which enabled him to perceive the minutest difference of shades, and made him a troublesome customer to drapers. The point is notable in connection with a statement of Francis Galton, that color-blindness is nearly twice as prevalent among Quakers, as among the rest of the community.<sup>1</sup>

Dr. Stewardson, who was the third son and the youngest of five children, was born in Philadelphia July 10, 1807.

Both of his parents and their ancestors were members of the Society of Friends.

Young Stewardson completed his scholastic education in the William Penn Charter School, while Joseph Roberts taught mathematics and the English branches; and Thomas Dugdale directed the classical studies of the pupils. The teaching was thorough. The course of study embraced enough learning to qualify those who completed it to enter the freshman class of any American college. The pupils who passed through the hands of Dugdale and Roberts were well prepared to become successful students.

One of his companions in the school remembers that

<sup>1</sup> P. 47. *Inquiries into Human Faculty and its Development*, by Francis Galton, F.R.S. Macmillan & Co., New York, 1883.

young Stewardson was considered by his school-fellows to be "a poky kind of boy."

It is related that he evinced, while still at school, interest in natural history; that he had astonished and excited the admiration of some of his comrades by imparting unusual colors to flowers of certain hydrangeas growing in his garden, by a process he would not explain to them; and that he frequently accompanied a well-known local botanist, Mr. Solomon W. Conrad, in his Saturday afternoon walks in the rural environs of the city. They became intimate, and the youth confided to his senior that he intended to become a physician if possible.

At that period many elderly people believed that a vocation for a livelihood should be selected for young men, because, as a rule, they are not qualified to appreciate fairly their own capabilities and circumstances, and, therefore, not likely to choose judiciously for themselves. Under influence of a notion of this kind, Mr. Stewardson would not listen to the representations of his son in favor of the medical profession, but insisted very positively that he must be fitted for a commercial career. With this purpose in view he placed his son, as soon as he had completed his course at school, with Jared M. Brown and M. D. Lewis, commission merchants.

From time to time, when opportunity offered, Mr. Conrad, who was moved, no doubt by seeing his young friend coerced, as it seemed to him, to follow a vocation wholly distasteful while anxious to enter upon another which was congenial to his mind, ventured to speak to Mr. Stewardson on the subject, and advocate the propriety and reasonableness of Thomas's aspiration which, he said, he had learned while they were together on their botanical rambles.



Mr. Conrad's arguments induced Mr. Stewardson to consent very reluctantly that Thomas might study medicine. After a year's experience with the merchants, he became a pupil of Dr. Thomas Chalkley James, who was a member of the Society of Friends, and the first professor of midwifery in the University of Pennsylvania.

Having complied with all the requirements of the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, the degree of Doctor of Medicine was conferred upon him March, 1830. His inaugural thesis was on Digestion.

He was immediately elected a resident physician of the Pennsylvania Hospital, in which he remained until April, 1832.

While in the hospital, he suffered from the effects of a dissecting wound, which was so serious that his recovery was ascribed solely to the attention and skill of Dr. John Rhea Barton.

At the end of his term in the hospital, he believed that he was not yet sufficiently qualified to begin the active career he had projected for himself. It was commonly supposed here, at that time and long after, that opportunities for acquiring practical and scientific knowledge of medicine were greater in the hospitals and schools of Paris than elsewhere, and that the kings of all the realms of the healing art resided there. Prominent among them were Dupuytren, Velpeau, Civiale, Ricord, Louis, Andral, Chomel, Trousseau, Magendie, and others, who, like Broussais, the author of the so-called physiological doctrine, have long since been dethroned, or have ceased to be renowned.

The celebrity of the French schools and teachers determined Dr. Stewardson to continue his studies in Paris.

In the early part of the summer, he engaged passage in a



packet bound from New York to Liverpool, but his mother, apprehensive that he might be unnecessarily exposed to contact with cholera, then reported to have broken out in Canada, objected to his departure from New York, although no case had occurred at that time either in New York or Philadelphia. Yet, in deference to his mother's wish, he relinquished his place in the packet and had the passage-money returned to him.

Then he endeavored to obtain passage on board of a ship about to sail from Philadelphia, but the owner, Mr. Thomas P. Cope, informed him that the whole of the cabin, except a single berth reserved for a surgeon of the ship, had been engaged. Mr. Cope was pleased to appoint Dr. Stewardson to the position. The principal passengers were General George Cadwalader, Joseph Bonaparte, ex-king of Spain, and his suite. Dr. Stewardson won the esteem of the ex-king, and at parting received from him some trinket in token of his regard.

Soon after his arrival in Paris he suffered from a sharp attack of pleurisy, a dreaded consequence of which alarmed him so much that, towards the close of September, he went to Nantes and remained some weeks, because he conjectured that there his convalescence would be more perfect and rapid than in Paris. A notion that phthisis would sooner or later follow his pleurisy entered his mind and possibly interfered with his labor.

The winter was passed in visiting the Parisian hospitals and attending Gouffroy's lectures on Philosophy, probably in company with several students from the United States. "If I mistake not," one of them wrote, "Dr. Stewardson's mind, like my own and some others among my friends, was unbalanced in regard to religious belief. We were

all discussing the high themes of life and death and the after death, and to him they brought, I fear, sorrow as they did to me. I well remember a remark let fall by Ralph Waldo Emerson, who was in Paris a few weeks, and with whom Dr. Stewardson and others held conversations on these matters. After speaking of having met Dr. Stewardson, Mr. Emerson remarked, 'The Doctor seems to want to be shriven.'"

Referring, in after years, to those conversations held in the happy and hopeful days of early manhood, Dr. Stewardson remembered that he was greatly startled at Emerson's pantheistic thoughts, and that their expression long reverberated through his memory and shook the foundations of his own confidence in the religious belief of his ancestors. To those conversations he seemed to trace the modification of his views, which resulted in his self-transfer from the Society of Friends to the Protestant Episcopal Church, to which he adhered till death.

In a letter to one of his old friends, August, 1873, he wrote: "You say your daughter has become an Episcopalian. So am I; for I like the Prayer-book and service. But when it comes to principles I must either have the very broad church or else the old Roman Catholic, and apostatize church *authority* or *free* thought. On the ground of *authority* there is one only church, the Roman Catholic. Some of these days if I live I must talk with you on these matters, but I cannot now. For myself I expect to hang on to the broad church, though some of our English Episcopalians are getting terribly broad indeed. Thirty years ago one would have called them infidels or something very near it."

In March, 1833, he embarked at Marseilles for Italy, visited Genoa, Florence, Civeta Vecchia, Rome, Naples,

Bologna, Francolino, Venice, Verona, Brescia, Milan, Geneva, and after an absence of about three months returned to Paris in the month of June.

About Oct. 1833, he was elected a member of *La Société Médicale d'Observation*, the purpose of which is to train its members in the laborious and difficult task of observing exactly, and recording accurately, the phenomena of diseases found in the hospitals of Paris or elsewhere. The society was founded in 1832, and still exists. Seven volumes of matter selected from its transactions have been published at long intervals between them. The motive for organizing the society was the hope of contributing towards the removal of an evil manifest in the fact that both ancient and modern medical literature abounds in imperfect, inaccurate, incomplete, and, for this reason, unreliable observations which therefore encumber and retard rather than promote the progress of medical science. M. Louis, the first president of the society, has treated the subject in detail in a paper "On the Method of Observing," a translation of which, by Dr. Henry I. Bowditch, was published in 1838.<sup>1</sup>

The society consists of only twenty-five members, and an unlimited number of honorary members, a class composed of those members who have removed from the French capital.

<sup>1</sup> *De L'Examen des Malades, et de la Recherche des Faits Généreaux.* Par M. Louis. *Memoirs de la Société Médicale d'Observations*, tome i., 1837.

*Memoir on the proper Method of Examining a Patient and of arriving at Facts of a General Nature.* By M. Louis, Physician to La Pitié, etc. Translated from the French by Henry I. Bowditch, M.D. etc. *Dunglison's American Medical Library. Medical and Surgical Monographs.* A. Wadde, Philadelphia, 1838.



When a candidate for membership is proposed he submits histories of at least three cases of the same disease and an analytical or critical summary of them, or of a collection of cases assigned to him by others. His papers are referred to a committee. The report of the committee is discussed and immediately after a ballot is cast, the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members present being necessary to elect.

The president is elected for life, and the other officers annually. The society meets every Saturday, punctually at seven o'clock P. M., for two hours.

Dr. Stewardson, in a letter to his friend Dr. Gerhard, wrote: "My modesty won't permit me to tell you how much I was flattered by the encomium I received from Louis and the rest in relation to the mode in which my cases were drawn up, the analysis of them, etc. Since then I have read them an observation, and next week expect to read another. I find the advantage very great, and only wish I had become a member much sooner. Not the least advantage is my being brought into more close connection with Louis."

He earned first the commendation, and then the personal friendship of M. Louis, which was maintained by correspondence long after his return to Philadelphia.

In a letter, dated Paris, March 22, 1834, he expresses his admiration of M. Louis, and says that Broussais himself "has placed Louis at the head of all living physicians by devoting double the space, nearly two hundred pages, to the examination of his work, that he has to any of the others. I bought the book only yesterday, and have as yet read only a part of his examination of Louis's works, but I have read enough to justify me in saying that it is miserably weak

and puerile in point of argument, and what is worse, it is base and mean, inasmuch as he endeavors in various ways to take from him the character of originality as regards discoveries so positively his own, and besides, endeavors to undermine his character by accusing him of want of faith." Passages from Broussais are quoted to sustain these assertions.

During part or all of the time he sojourned in Paris, Dr. Stewardson's more or less intimate medical associates were Drs. W. W. Gerhard, George W. Norris, W. Pennoek of Philadelphia, and Drs. Henry I. Bowditch, Robert Hooper, and Oliver Wendell Holmes of Boston. They were all in their halcyon days, "when each man passed for just what he was worth;" all looking hopefully if not ambitiously to their professional future. The friendships then formed between them and Dr. Stewardson were sincere, and proved to be life-long. Among them there was an amicable rivalry in work, in study, the effects of which have made them useful, eminent, or well known. Then they were intent not only to learn what was known, but by patient and constant observation, and analysis of their observations, to increase the stock of definite knowledge. In the estimation of all American students in Paris at that period, M. Louis was the leader, the trusty pioneer whom they should follow and imitate in their labors, because in their eyes his methods were rational and his abilities and acquirements were unsurpassed. They probably repeated his teachings and extended their influence.

Dr. Stewardson finally left Paris in May, 1834, and went to London. He remained there some weeks, and having fallen in with his Paris friend, Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, they travelled together in England and Scotland. They

parted company in the north of England, and Dr. Stewardson visited his relatives in Westmoreland. After an absence of more than three months he returned to London. Thence he wrote to his friend, Sept. 9, 1834. He remembered the time he had devoted in Paris "to collecting cases à la Louis, at La Pitié, not so much on account of the absolute information gained and labor performed, as for the influence it has exerted upon my mind. I long to get home to pursue the same course there." He expressed a desire to be again elected a resident of the Pennsylvania Hospital, that he might spend two years collecting cases, which he regarded as "an almost necessary base-work for future success in the line" which he proposed to pursue. Louis's paper on emphysema of the lungs he regarded as an important contribution to our knowledge of the disease, and therefore he intended to publish a translation of it; and he was pleased to say that Louis seemed to think well of the project when mentioned to him before leaving Paris.

Dr. Stewardson returned to his home November, 1834. He was then in the twenty-eighth year of his age. He had devoted seven years at home and abroad to the study of medicine, and now, zealous to contribute to its advancement, and his mind matured by foreign experience, he offered his professional services to his fellow citizens.

He became interested in several societies: was a member of the Philadelphia Medical Society; a fellow of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia from January, 1835; member of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, April, 1836; a member of the Friday Evening Medical Club. He was married April 6, 1837, to Hannah, a daughter of Henry Hollingsworth, Esq., a bank president. February, 1837, he was appointed a physician of the Phila-



delphia Hospital, and resigned May, 1838, when he was elected a physician of the Pennsylvania Hospital. He served the institution till 1845, seven years, when the condition of his health induced him to resign. About 1839 he was appointed physician of the City Hospital. He was a member of the Board of Health from March, 1838, till March, 1840. His name is on the list of collaborators of *The American Journal of the Medical Sciences* from November, 1836, till 1842.

All the duties which these appointments imposed were duly discharged, in addition to those of his professional practice and private business.

In the course of 1836 he wrote reviews of Dr. P. M. Latham's lectures on subjects connected with clinical medicine, and of Dr. W. W. Gerhard's *Diagnosis of Diseases of the Chest*, which were published in vol. xviii. 1836, of the *American Journal of the Medical Sciences*. Also of Auguste de Grissolle's *Essai sur la Colique de Plomb*, and a bibliographic notice of Isodore Bouvin's *Récherches sur les Complications qui accompagnent la Rougeole chez l'Enfant*, which appeared in vol. xix. 1836.

In the first volume of *Medical and Surgical Monographs*, of Dunglison's *American Medical Library*, 1838, may be found Dr. Stewardson's translation of *Researches on Emphysema of the Lungs*, by M. Louis, Physician of La Pitié, etc., 8vo. pp. 63.

A review of *Anatomical, Pathological, and Therapeutic Researches on the Yellow Fever of Gibraltar of 1828*, by P. Ch. A. Louis, etc., translated by G. C. Shattuck, M. D., was published in the *American Journal of the Medical Sciences* for November, 1839.

In the same journal for April, 1841, he published his

Observations on Remittent Fever, founded upon cases observed in the Pennsylvania Hospital.

In the issue for January, 1842, *Case of Yellow Fever*, with remarks; and in the number for April, of the same year, *Observations on Remittent Fever*, founded on cases observed in the Pennsylvania Hospital.

In the number for January, 1843, appeared *Remarks upon the cases of Smallpox* admitted into the City Hospital during the years 1840, 41, and 42. By Thomas Stewardson, M.D., Physician to the Institution.

In October, 1843, he finished the work of editing the first American edition of Dr. John Elliotson's *Principles and Practice of Medicine*, "with notes and additions by Thomas Stewardson, M.D., etc.," an octavo volume of 1046 pages, which was published by Carey & Hart, Philadelphia, 1844. The principal additions to this work made by him were a chapter on remittent fever, and another on yellow fever.

Early in 1844 he proposed to prepare a standard work on fevers, and in April agreed with Messrs. Lea & Blanchard upon the terms of its publication.

The record of the work he had done proves his zeal and industry; and at that time the character of it seemed to forecast eminence and prosperity. But the hope of his future was destroyed. Not long after he had arranged to publish his projected treatise on fevers he suffered from a severe attack of pneumonia, followed by an alarming pulmonary hemorrhage. His recovery was slow. Consultations of experts resulted in an opinion substantially that he could not continue to live in the climate of Philadelphia without probable development of pulmonary disease of a serious nature. Having suffered from pleurisy in Paris,

1832, he was ever after always more or less solicitous about his health, and now that he was advised to reside in a milder climate, and abate his labors, the baleful shade of invalidism clouded his mind, and rendered him ever after timid of exertion and exposure. In conformity to the recommendation of his medical advisers he determined to seek a milder climate, and selected Savannah, Georgia, as the place of his future abode.

With the regrets and sympathy of many warm friends he left Philadelphia November 12, 1845. Whatever he might have hoped to achieve by his labors to contribute to the progress of medical science, his career in this connection was closed. But he expected to practise his profession in his new home to the extent his health might permit.

As a consequence of his removal to the city of Savannah Dr. Stewardson had forfeited his fellowship in the College of Physicians, but as a token of the high estimation in which he was held by his colleagues at the time, he was elected an associate of the College January 5, 1847.

From the date of his departure from Philadelphia till January 6, 1846, he kept a diary. The following extract from it presents a graphic picture of what no one will ever behold again in this land, and at the same time a glimpse of our invalid's emotional character.

He was accidentally present at an auction sale of slaves, January 6, 1846. He wrote in his diary: "My heart ached . . . and I sympathized deeply with the poor creatures, and I could not help thinking the auctioneer did too, and I thought he seemed disposed to help them to good masters or mistresses, for a woman was one of the purchasers. Such occurrences are doubtless among the great evils of slavery, but good masters, I am satisfied, so greatly preponderate



that there are other evils of a free state among the same class of population which make a fair set off against it. Such public exhibitions are shocking to one's feelings, and must have a prejudicial influence on those who become accustomed to them. In my walk with Mr. H. on Saturday, on a rice plantation to the southwest of the town, a short distance below the railroad bridge, the water being obtained from an adjoining swamp still more to the south, I observed two negroes digging out the rice ditch, and on the bank stood another negro with a whip in his hand. This also made me feel *creepy*, and I inquired of Mr. H. if this was common. He said yes; it was customary on the rice plantations, and that the *negro* drivers were apt to be severe, laying on the lash whenever they choose to consider anything wrong. A little further on I saw a woman who had been at the same work in the ditch warming her wet, muddy feet over a little fire on the bank."

Dr. Stewardson established himself in Savannah, and soon obtained a large practice which he abandoned at the end of four years on account of ill health, and removed to Marietta, Cobb County, Ga. There he settled himself and family on a farm which was partly within the limits of the town. Living four years in contact with slavery had so far overcome his repugnance to the institution that he found it expedient to become the owner of a half dozen slaves.

Marietta at the time contained about three thousand inhabitants and was a resort in winter for invalids of the southern, and in summer for those of the northern parts of that region. He made there many friends, was highly esteemed, and frequently consulted professionally.

The Georgia Military Institute was established there in the spring of 1851, and opened with twenty-eight pupils.

The government of the United States furnished arms for its use.<sup>1</sup> At its organization the trustees elected Dr. Stewardson Professor of the Natural Sciences, a position which he resigned after two years' service. During the war of the rebellion the building of the Institute was burned, and has not been rebuilt.

After residing more than twelve years in Georgia he returned to Philadelphia in the autumn of 1858, seemingly in perfect health. Though he did not resume the practice of his profession, he renewed his connection with the College of Physicians, with the Friday Evening Medical Club, of which he was an original member, and with the Academy of Natural Sciences.

He read before the college an appropriate biographical memoir of his friend, Dr. William W. Gerhard, May 4, 1864, and for several successive years discharged the duties of the librarian during the summer vacations of the latter.

He had held the office of Recording Secretary of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia from June, 1837, till January, 1840. His interest in the pursuits of the society revived on his return to the city. He was again elected a member April, 1859, and in December corresponding secretary, and annually thereafter till December, 1866; also, member of the publication committee on which he served till December, 1865.

Learning from French scientific periodicals that the ailanthus silk-worm had been brought from China to Turin in 1857, and that M. Guérin Méneville had introduced it into France in 1858, where it seemed likely to be extensively cultivated, Dr. Stewardson conjectured that it might thrive

<sup>1</sup> Historical Notes of Georgia. By Rev. George White, M.A. New York, 1855.

also in the United States. Early in 1860, through the kind agency of his friend, Mr. G. Roberts Smith, he procured from Paris specimens of this new silk-worm, *Bombyx cynthia* or *Attacus cynthia*, some of its cocoons and samples of the silk obtained from them in the state of crude, spun, and woven silk. Through the same agency he received from Paris, in the month of June, eggs of this bombyx. Mr. Evans, an intelligent manufacturer, who was pleased to co-operate in the effort to introduce the cultivation of this silk into the United States, succeeded in raising a few worms which formed their cocoons in July. Towards the middle of August the butterflies appeared, and the eggs laid by them hatched their worms between August 30th and September 3d. He distributed some of these worms on several ailanthus trees, and Dr. Stewardson placed others on a large ailanthus tree in a private garden in the city. Some he fed in a room in his own house and some in the hall of the Academy. Those placed in the open air were not injured although exposed to heavy rains and strong winds. His experiments convinced him that this worm could be raised in our country, and that two crops of them each season are obtainable in this latitude.

At a meeting of the Academy, March 5, 1861, Dr. Stewardson stated in detail his experiments and the results.<sup>1</sup>

Attention was again called to the subject at a meeting of the Academy, September 26, 1882. Dr. Leidy stated substantially that he had noticed an abundance of the ailanthus silk-worms, *Attacus cynthia*, upon the ailanthus trees, and that they had been introduced into this country by the late Dr. Stewardson, in 1860. Dr. E. J. Nolan, the recording

<sup>1</sup> Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, vol. xiii. 1861, p. 525.



secretary, added that he had taken charge of Dr. Stewardson's collections soon after the appearance of the second crop of worms and supplied them with ailanthus leaves in his office; and afterwards had placed the worms in his possession, an aggregate of several hundred, upon an ailanthus tree in the yard of a house previously occupied by Dr. Hare, south of the medical department of the old University building on Ninth Street. They multiplied there, to such extent that entomologists have since recognized them as one of our naturalized species. There is no reason to doubt that the *cynthia* moth, as it is found in this section of the country, has descended from that colony.

The silk produced by the *Attacus cynthia* is of good quality, but the great difficulty of winding it from the cocoons renders it objectionable to manufacturers. It is said that the difficulty is obviated in China by carding them.

Dr. Stewardson was a member of the Board of Health in 1861, 62, 63, and resigned to accept the office of Lazaretto Physician, at the early part of 1864, to which he was appointed by the Governor of the State. He relinquished the post in the autumn in consequence of an unconquerable apprehension of being accidentally drowned some day while boarding vessels from a row boat in the line of his official duty.

He was again a member of the Board of Health from 1867 till 1872, inclusive, making an aggregate of eleven years' service in the Board.

In April, 1868, he was elected a corresponding member of *La Société Imperiale Académique de Cherbourg*.

Dr. Stewardson's death was ascribed to chronic disease of the stomach. From the date of his removal from Philadelphia until his last hour he never had a symptom of pulmo-

nary disturbance. If the diagnosis of his condition by experts in 1845 was accurate, the influence of the climate of Georgia was most salutary, for on his return home, 1858, his health, as already stated, seemed to be perfect, although the valetudinarian's carefulness of himself, which had its birth in Paris, and was virtually recreated by his unreserved confidence in the opinion given to him in 1845, haunted him more or less continuously till the end. If that opinion was not correct, as it may be possibly surmised in the light of subsequent experience, the error was of dismal import, for without conclusive reason it extinguished professional aspiration, marred the fortunes of the patient, and rendered a valuable life comparatively valueless during more than a quarter of a century.

Dr. Stewardson died June 30, 1878, almost at the end of his seventy-first year. His widow and their five children, two sons and three daughters, survived him. Mrs. Stewardson died January 25, 1880.

Dr. Stewardson was endowed with ability of a high order, and, though denied the advantages of collegiate training, his attainments were varied and extensive. He wrote well, and had the reputation of a pleasing and instructive clinical lecturer. His papers on yellow and remittent fevers were highly appreciated at the time of their publication, and it is conceded that he was the first to note the post-mortem condition of the liver in the latter, characterized by a bronze or slate color. He worked industriously to contribute to the progress of the science of medicine, and was noted for his skill in the art of treating diseases, especially those of the lungs. His diagnosis in these affections was considered to be as reliable as that of any practitioner of his day; but he himself awarded the first place in this connection to

his friend Dr. Gerhard. His examination of patients was notably deliberate, scrutinizing, careful; his diagnosis was cautiously given, and his therapeutic methods and formulas were simple.

Socially he was regarded as a high-toned, intelligent, well-educated gentleman and physician. He was very amiable, sensitive, quiet, modest, diligent, and, in his Parisian days, manifested a remarkable sensibility to music. One of his friends of that period says: "I cherish his memory as that of a most kind-hearted friend and a most agreeable companion, whom I always met with pleasure and parted from with regret."

A life closed at the end of threescore years and ten has had its allotted share of time, and yet may lack much else for its round completion, in things left undone which might have been done, but were not, and still without fault or indifference being fairly chargeable.

An amiable Christian gentleman, courteous, intelligent, well educated, diligent, as competent witnesses testify, started on life's campaign without apparent obstacle, with no cloud between him and the goal of his ambition, possibly urged on by friends expecting and predicting for him a brilliant triumph. His thirty-seventh year little more than completed, while sounds of approbation and even of applause were coming to him from the finished and notable labors of the first decade of his toil, he was stopped and overthrown in his path by alarming disease. After his recovery specialists reached a diagnosis which made the continuance of his life contingent upon a devotion of it to hygienic precaution. From partial lack of self-assertion, of intrepidity in his character, the practice of this precaution, though he was not an invalid in fact, fastened upon him a tyrannical

phantom of invalidism which dwarfed his energy, indirectly consumed his time and substance, and slowly reduced his ample means to be insufficient in the end to afford more than a very modest living for himself and family. In fact, so much and constant attention was injudiciously given to the prophylaxis of life itself that little time and energy were left for anything else. Had the specialists refrained from expressing an opinion in the case, may it not be conjectured now that he might have resumed and continued work at home, and, without closing his life a day sooner, attained scientific eminence far surpassing the expectation of his most sanguine friends?

The good quality of his original work is our apology for expressing regret that he did no more. The ills which overtake a man, as well as the success he may achieve, equally belong to a history of his life. Reference to his misfortunes does not lessen, but rather enhances, his merit.

In the death of Dr. Stewardson the College lost a worthy associate, and the community an esteemed gentleman.









